

lands ; that pecuniary assistance, however, might be contributed to the support of the Clergy of the Church of Scotland out of the rents or profits of the Reserves, in the discretion, as they apprehended, of the Colonial Government ; and that dissenting Ministers, not belonging to either of the national religious establishments, did not come within the term “ *Protestant Clergy*,” and could not therefore participate in the provision.

The Committee of the House of Commons having this opinion of the Crown Officers before them, declined expressing their own in regard to the proper legal construction of the Act ; but, without defining what sense they give to the term “ *Clergy*,” they seemed inclined to consider that the Church of England alone was intended to be endowed with lands ; but, that with respect to the proceeds of the reserved lands, generally, the Government might apply the money, if they so thought fit, to any “ *Protestant Clergy*.”

The learned Counsel for the Colonial department, Mr. STEPHEN, on his examination before the Committee, seems to have taken a middle course between the Crown Officers and the Committee, giving it as his opinion that no Clergy but those of England and Scotland can participate either in the Reserves, or in the proceeds of them, but that in respect to the lands themselves, although the Clergy of the Church of England alone could receive endowments of any portion of them as parochial Ministers, yet the Crown might authorise